

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A fiber optic cable, comprising:  
an outer layer;  
at least one optical fiber disposed inside said outer layer;  
at least one gel-swellaable portion proximate to an inner surface of said outer layer; and  
a water resistant gel positioned adjacent to said gel-swellaable portion and disposed between said outer layer and said optical fiber;  
wherein said gel-swellaable portion has a density of less than 0.90 g/cc and said outer layer has a density of at least 0.90 g/cc.
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is a continuous layer surrounding said at least one optical fiber.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has an uneven thickness.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has a smooth surface.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has at least one groove in a surface of said at least one gel-swellaable portion.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is made from at least one longitudinally running strip.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, further comprising a second gel-swellaable portion positioned between said gel-swellaable portion and said at least one optical fiber.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has a corrugated surface which is adjacent to said gel.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein at least one gel-swellaable portion contacts said inner surface of said outer layer.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is one of a copolymer or terpolymer of polyethelene.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said gel-swellaable portion swells more than 10% at 85°C.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

12. (ORIGINAL)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said gel is a polyolefin oil based gel.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is a polyolefin swellaable material.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein the material of said at least one gel-swellaable portion is softer than the material of said outer layer.

15. - 28.      (CANCELED).

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      A fiber optic cable, comprising:  
an outer layer;  
at least one optical fiber;  
a water resistant gel disposed between said at least one optical fiber and said outer layer;  
and  
at least one gel-swellaable portion proximate to one of an inner surface of said outer layer and an outer surface of said optical fiber;  
wherein said gel-swellaable portion is made from a material softer than said one of said inner surface and said outer surface to which said gel-swellaable portion is proximate to, and  
wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has a density less than 0.90 g/cc.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is a continuous layer.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has an uneven thickness.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has a smooth surface.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion has a groove in a surface of said at least one gel-swellaable portion.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaable portion is made from at least one longitudinally running strip.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, further comprising a second gel-swellaable portion positioned between said at least one gel-swellaable portion and the other of said outer surface and said inner surface.

36. (CANCELLED)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaible portion is one of a copolymer or terpolymer of polyethelene.

38. (CANCELLED)

39. (ORIGINAL)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said gel is a polyolefin oil based gel.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaible portion is a polyolefin swellaible material.

41. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaible portion has a corrugated surface.

42. (CANCELED).

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swellaible portion swells more than 10% at 85°C.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Application Number 09/851,247

Our Ref: A7966  
Art Unit: 2874

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein  
said at least one gel-swellable portion contacts said one of an inner surface of said outer layer  
and an outer surface of said optical fiber.